

[8th February 1924]

*The Harris High School.*

360 Q.—Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether a representation was received from the Muhammadan Educational Association of Southern India, Madras, praying for the continuance of the Harris High School, Madras, under the management of the Government for a further term of one year;

(b) whether the Government propose to give effect to the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee regarding the abolition of the Government Muhammadan College, Madras; and

(c) if so, whether they propose to consult the leaders of the Mussalman community before effecting the abolition?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) Yes.

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB:—“Will the Government be pleased to answer my question contained in clause (a) of Question No. 360?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“I said that the matter is under consideration.”

Mr. YAHYA ALI SAHIB:—“With regard to clause (a)?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Yes.”

*Additional Secretary to the Government.*

361 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether Mr. T. E. Moir has been appointed as Additional Secretary to the Government, and if so, the duties he is discharging and the reasons for the said appointment?

A.—Mr. T. E. Moir was appointed temporary Joint Secretary to Government to prepare—

(1) a scheme for financing an expansion of elementary education; and

(2) a draft Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

This work could not be attended to by the existing establishment.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“May I ask the hon. the Finance Member to say whether the special duties on which Mr. Moir was engaged have been finished by him?”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER:—“Mr. Moir has been working under the orders of the hon. the Minister for Education. I think he can answer that question better than I can do.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“I put the question to the hon. the Finance Member because the question stands in his name and he has answered it. May I now ask the hon. the Minister for Education to say whether the special duties on which Mr. Moir was engaged have been finished by him?”



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The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I would like to have notice of this question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister when his duty is likely to be finished ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Notice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask what the extra cost involved to the Government is in deputing a special officer for doing these two pieces of work ?"

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" Perhaps I may be permitted to answer that question, Sir. There was no extra cost, because owing to the postponement of the meeting of the Assembly, Mr. Moir, who had returned from leave in order to go to the Assembly on a particular date, was without employment for the space of a few weeks. If we had sent him to a district and made him take over charge there for a week or two and then brought him back again, we should have incurred a large amount of expenditure in transfers, and it was cheaper to Government on the whole to put him on to a useful piece of work which we did."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am glad to get that answer, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the emoluments of Mr. Moir were debited to the Transferred Departments ?"

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—" The answer to that, Sir, is in the affirmative." (Laughter.)

*Fees of pupils in the Queen Mary's College.*

362 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the fees of pupils in the Queen Mary's College have been or are going to be raised this year ;
- (b) the rate of increase ; and
- (c) the reasons for the increase ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the revised fee regulations for Arts Colleges under public management published with notification No. 267 on page 804 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 24th October 1922. It has been decided to introduce these regulations in the Queen Mary's College for Women, Madras, from the beginning of the academic year 1924-25. The revision affects all Government Colleges and is consequent on the division of the academic year into *three* terms.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In view of the fact women's education is a thing which ought to be encouraged, will the hon. the Minister for Education say whether the Government mean making the fees in the Queen Mary's College less than the fees in the other colleges ?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The question has already been raised and is under examination. It is purely a matter of finance."